4. கவன ஈர்ப்பு.

(அ) சென்னையில் புதிய தொற்றுநோய்க் காய்ச்சல் பரவி இருப்பதும் அதைத் தடுக்க எடுக்கப்பட்டுள்ள நடவடிக்கைகளும் குறித்து

THIRU N. DENNIS: Sir, I call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Public Health to a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the prevalence of a new infectious fever in Madras and the steps taken to arrest the spread of that fever.

DR. H. V. HANDE: Sir, I wish to call the attention of the Hon. Minister for Public Health to a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the prevalence of a new infectious fever in Madras and the steps taken to arrest the spread of that fever.

THE HON. THIRU K. ANBAZHAGAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a slight or marginal increase in the incidence of short fevers during the last three months in the City of Madras. They are related to the upper respiratory infection and do not have any relation to the epidemic type of Influenza of East Asian countries. The present type of cases occur every year and there is no abnormal or enormous increase in this particular season. The incidence is not at all alarming. The average number of cases treated in the institutions under the control of the Government in the City of Madras comes to about 10 per day out of a total out-patient new cases of Medical 300, the highest peak being 20 cases per day. The number of cases of fever treated during the last three months in the dispensaries of the Corporation of Madras are as follows :—

1973—August	22,510
September	24,179
October	24,924

The number of cases treated in the dispensaries of the Corporation of Madras during the corresponding period in the previous year, namely, 1972, are as follows :—

1972—August	26,386
September	20,405
October	29,733

Serological and virus studies show that this fever is related to type 'A' Influenza. The diagnosis is made clinically and laboratory tests and treatment are also clinical and effective. The incidence is definitely coming down.

There has also been a small incidence of Dengue and Dengue-like fevers, at about one case a week, as reported at the Government medical institutions in the City of Madras and it is not in any epidemic form. The Dengue fever is transmitted by mosquitoes unlike 'A' Influenza which is an air-borne infection.

The Corporation of Madras has taken preventive measures like control of breeding of mosquitoes and imparting health education to the public.

There is slight increase in the incidence of fever cases in Coimbatore and Madurai and the incidence of fever cases is very high in Tirunelveli and Chingleput. The fever cases in the said four places also relate only to 'Influenza' and they do not relate to 'Dengue'. The fever cases respond well to the treatment and no complications are met with.

There is no report of increase in the incidence of fever cases in the other places.

The Director of Medical Education has issued instructions to the institutions under his control to keep a close watch and to take anticipatory measures in case there is possibility of onset of Dengue fever in an epidemic form.

THIRU N. DENNIS : May I know, Sir, whether the Government would consider the possibility of setting up a Department soon to consider such virus diseases ?

THE HON. THIRU K. ANBAZHAGAN : Sir, already the department concerned is taking every action necessary to find out various types of fevers that may occur.

DR. H. V. HANDE : May I know whether it is not a fact some months ago as soon as the influenza fever started coming an official spokesman of the Department came out with a statement to the Press saying that there were a number of cases and that steps will have to be taken and whether it is also a fact that

that statement has caused a great deal of alarm in the minds of the general public ? May I know whether it is also a fact that due to unhygienic condition in the City, due to sewage water not properly going to sewers a lot of sewage water mix up with the drinking water connections and water pipes? Is it not also a fact that due to such unhygienic conditions, there is a spread of infectious fevers and is it not necessary for the Department to take preventive measures and issue a statement educating the public? I want clarifications on those points.

THE HON. THIRU K. ANBAZHAGAN: Usually, in a particular season, that is, August, September and October naturally dengue fever occurs and the figures are not abnormal compared with the figures of the previous year 1972. With regard to other things, Corporation is taking necessary action. It may not be sufficient because the population has increased much and they are not able to cope up with the larger demand. Even then the Corporation of Madras has taken certain preventive measures. I won't say that I fully justify the measures taken by the Corporation. But under the given circumstances what they can do they are doing.

DR. H. V. HANDE: I am glad the Hon. Minister for Health himself has admitted and stated that the steps taken by the Corporation are not sufficient. That is a fact. Another point is that whenever the statements are issued by the Department they should be routed through the Hon. Minister. Such matters of public importance should be routed through the Hon. Minister for Public Health so that the public might not be frightened by such statements. I also want a clarification from the Hon. Minister on this point. Instead of controlling the mosquitoes and other things, they are increasing year by year which have gone beyond the control of the Government.

THE HON. THIRU K. ANBAZHAGAN: The hon. Member himself is a Doctor and he should be well aware that influenza is an air-borne infection and it is not spread by mosquitoes. The incidence is definitely coming down. We cannot blame that the

control of mosquitoes has not been properly done. As already pointed out by me there was one case a week of 'A' Influenza and it was not in large numbers. The present type of influenza fever occurs every year.

(Dr. Hande rose. Mr. Speaker sounded the gong.)

DR. H. V. HANDE: The Hon. Minister said that the hon. Member himself is a doctor. I want to clarify one point. There should not be any misunderstanding that I am not aware of the fact stated by the Minister. I know that Influenza . . . .

மாண்புமிகு பேரவைத் தலைவர்: பெர்சனல் எக்ஸ்ப்ளனேஷன் என்றால் உங்களைப்பற்றி ஏதாவது சொன்னால் நீங்கள் விளக்கம் சொல்லவேண்டும். தயவு செய்து உட்காருங்கள்.

(ஆ) திருச்சி மாவட்டம் வெள்ளியணைப் பகுதியில் விவசாயிகளிடமிருந்து கடன் வசூலைத் தள்ளிவைத்தல் குறித்து.

மாண்புமிகு பேரவைத் தலைவர்: அடுத்து திரு. பெ. சௌந்தரபாண்டியன் 41-வது விதியின் கீழ் அவசரப் பொதுமுக்கியமான காரியத்தை மாண்புமிகு வருவாய்த் துறை அமைச்சர் அவர்களின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவருவார்.

திரு. பெ. சௌந்தரபாண்டியன்: தலைவர் அவர்களே, திருச்சி மாவட்டம் வெள்ளியணைப் பகுதியில் போதுமான மழை பெய்யாத காரணத்தால் எவ்வித விவசாயமும் செய்ய முடியாமல் விவசாயிகள் வருமானம் இன்றி மிகவும் சிரமப்படுவதால், அரசுக்கு செலுத்த வேண்டிய கடனை வசூல் செய்ய, விவசாயிகளுக்குத் தொல்லை கொடுத்துவருகிற நிலை ஏற்பட்டிருப்பதால், ஜப்தி போன்ற நடவடிக்கைகளை உடனடியாக நிறுத்திவைத்து கடன் வசூலை சிறிது காலம் தள்ளி வைக்கவேண்டும் என்பது பற்றிய அவசரப் பொதுமுக்கியமான காரியத்தை மாண்புமிகு வருவாய்த் துறை அமைச்சர் அவர்களின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டு வருகிறேன்.

மாண்புமிகு திரு. எஸ். ஜே. சாதிக் பாட்சா: தலைவர் அவர்களே, திருச்சிராப்பள்ளி மாவட்ட ஆட்சியாளர் தனது 19—11—1973-வார இறுதிக்கான காலநிலை அறிக்கையில், கரூர் தாலுக்காவில்